

Office of the Dean  
College of Arts & Sciences

# DEANotes

October 2006

Vol. VI, No. 3

## WheelerNotes

### Many thanks ... Mark, Rob, Ellen, Leary, Nick, and many others

The second chapter of the dedication of the Armstrong Center was an especially sweet affair. At 6:00 pm 70 members of the Arts and Sciences community gathered for conversation and an excellent meal prepared by A&S alumnus Chef Nick Mueller. With full stomachs we moved from lovely dining room to lovely auditorium where we joined some 140 members of the community and the student body for the screening of an outstanding documentary film by award-winning film maker, Ellen Perry. As in three previous campus appearances, Ms Perry was quite in engaging in her comments after the film and we left feeling both minds and bodies had been fed.

Many thanks to Honors Program student Rob Oldham who suggested the idea, to Dr. Mark Finlay who arranged all details of Ms Perry's visit and organized a much appreciated array of wine and other drinks, to Vice President Leary Bell for equipping the campus with this lovely facility, and to many faculty members who arranged for their students to benefit from Ms Perry's visit. May we find many good ways to use this facility to enhance teaching and learning at Armstrong.

### Honoring 401 and many others ... November 10

Four hundred and one current Armstrong students attend the university using veteran's benefits, and many other members of the Armstrong community, faculty, students, and staff, have served in the military. Our 70-year history is replete with alumni who served, and in some cases, died, in military service in the fields of Europe, in the jungles of Vietnam, and in the deserts of Iraq and Afghanistan. On November 10 we will pause and honor this tradition of service by both present and past members of the Armstrong community. In a simple ceremony beginning at 12:05 pm on November 10, the ROTC unit will march, bearing colors, from the front of the

Student Center, past Shearouse plaza, to the fountain area in the middle of the central campus. Colors will be posted and Colonel James Handley, commander of the Armstrong ROTC unit, will welcome those assembled and invite them to observe two minutes of silence to honor those who have served. The silence will be broken by a one-gun salute. Then taps will be played.

You are invited to join us as we seek to honor those among us who have served in a short but dignified ceremony on the Friday before Veterans Day. Please gather with us in the fountain area in the center of campus at 12:00. This event is sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences and the Executive Committee of the University.

### The 1950s ... At Armstrong State College

Caroline Hopkinson, our special collections librarian, has developed a traveling public history display depicting life at Armstrong at various points in its history. In two previous cycles she has used a display case outside the College offices in Solms Hall to install a depiction of life at Armstrong in the 1930s, then Armstrong in the war years. This Fall the display depicts Armstrong in the 1950s. Stop by during your next trip near Solms to view her work. Thank you, Ms Hopkinson.

### Would you like to teach a class?

- Composed of bright, well-educated students
- Composed of students who read their assignments and want to discuss the reading
- In which you do *not* do any grading

Dr. Michael Hall from the Department of History suggests that you can have this experience by teaching a course in any of the several venues in Savannah, which provide short, once a week classes for senior citizens. He also would claim that it is a very invigorating intellectual experience that restores your love of teaching. From time to time the Dean's Office receives calls requesting suggestions of faculty members (and topics) that might be taught in

five to six-week classes that meet one time a week to such audiences. *If you would like to be included on such a list, please send the Dean's office a topic or list of topics that you would enjoy teaching in such a context.* These topics might include not only your academic specialization but also other areas in which you have developed profound knowledge [I could imagine Richard Wallace presenting on banana cultivars in Southeast Georgia or Chris Hendricks lecturing on (and demonstrating?) eighteenth century dance steps].

I should add that there is compensation for such ventures depending on the organization delivering the courses. However, Dr. Hall suggests that the compensation itself is probably not the best justification for seeking to teach these audiences. *Remember to contact Wheeler.*

## FinlayNotes

### Curriculum Committee Matters

Frequently asked questions regarding UCC submissions:

#### What needs to go through the UCC?

- Changes/additions to undergraduate programs of study. Recall that adding, deleting, or altering courses usually impacts the program of study for your major, and often those for other programs as well.
- Changes to existing undergraduate course descriptions (including 5000-level courses)
- Additions/deletions of new undergraduate courses (including 5000-level courses)

#### What does not need to go through UCC?

- Typographical changes to programs of study/course descriptions
- Courses above the 5000 level (they go to the Graduate Curriculum Committee)

## Faculty Notes

**June Hopkins**, history, delivered on talk on the life and legacy of her grandfather Harry Hopkins at a ceremony at Grinnell College in Iowa. Governor Tom Vilsack honored Harry Hopkins with the Iowa Award, the state's highest citizen award, for his service in making the "state and the nation a better place for all." In addition to the governor, others in attendance included Finlay's college history advisor and college golf coach.

**Wendy Wolfe**, psychology, is co-author of the article "Teaching About Psychological Disorders: Using a

Group Interviewing and Diagnostic Approach" in the current issue of *Teaching of Psychology*.

**Sungkon Chang**, mathematics, has published an article "Note on the Rank of Quadratic Twists of Mordell Equations" in the *Journal of Number Theory* 118 (2006): 53-61.

**Donna Mullenax**, chemistry and physics, has been named Georgia coordinator for the Science Bowl.

**Ana Torres, Ellen Blossman, and Bill Deaver**, languages, literature & philosophy, have all published articles that appear in the recently published book *Juan Felipe Toruño: en dos mundos*. Toruño was an important Nicaraguan writer who had considerable influence in El Salvador and elsewhere in Central America. The work was co-edited by Dr. Rhina Toruño, the writer's daughter, and Ardis Nelson. Their collaboration on this project began at the Sixth Annual Conference on the Americas held at AASU in 2003.

Santiago Carrillo, **Yassaman Saadatmand, Michael Toma**, economics, have published "IMF Intervention and Ecuador's Poor: Time Series Evidence" in the *Southwest Journal of Economics* 8 (2006): 143-160. Mr. Santiago completed his B.A. in economics at AASU in 2004.

**Mark Finlay**, history, delivered a talk on the history and recent preservation efforts of the Savannah Ogeechee Canal at the World Canals Conference in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He gave a version of the same talk before the Historic Preservation Commission of Savannah's Metropolitan Planning Commission.

## Deadlines and Dates

- Oct 9** Promotion and Tenure documents due to dean
- Oct 9** Faculty Meeting
- Oct 12-14** Fall Break
- Oct 16** First Day Session 3
- Oct 18** AASU Day
- Oct 20** Faculty Lecture by Bird Flu Group
- Oct 22** Second Year Retention documents due to dean
- Oct 25** Workload Reports due to dean
- Oct 27** Items for A & S Curr Comm due
- Nov 1** Advisement begins
- Nov 3** Registration begins
- Nov 3** A & S Curr Comm
- Nov 10** Faculty Lecture by Sabrina Hessinger  
Veteran's Day ceremony
- Nov 12** Phi Kappa Phi induction
- Nov 13** Faculty Meeting

